

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (original): A method of alerting a client of a state change at a remote server, the method comprising:

A) creating a user profile indicating a preference to receive at least one alert corresponding to a change in state at the remote server;
connecting to a communications system including the remote server;
generating an address for the remote server from the user profile;
navigating to the address of the remote server;
retrieving data corresponding to a particular type of alert from the remote server; and
using the retrieved data in delivering an alert to the client.

2 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the communications system comprises an instant messaging system.

3 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the address comprises a uniform resource locator.

4 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein navigating to the address includes using a browser embedded in an instant messaging client.

5 (original): The method of claim 4, wherein the browser comprises a HTTP engine.

A | 6 (original): The method of claim 1 further comprising using a graphical user interface to create the user profile.

7 (original): The method of claim 1 further comprising storing the user profile on a host.

8 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the alert corresponds to a change at a remote mail server.

9 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the alert corresponds to a change at a remote weather server.

10 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the alert corresponds to a change at a remote stock server.

11 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the alert corresponds to a change at a remote third party server.

12 (currently amended): A computer program, stored on a computer readable medium, comprising instructions for:

creating a user profile indicating a preference to receive at least one alert corresponding to a change in state at the a remote server;

connecting to a communications system including the remote server;

generating an address for the remote server from the user profile;

navigating to the address of the remote server;

retrieving data corresponding to a particular type of alert from the remote server; and

using the retrieved data in delivering an alert to the a client.

13 (original): The computer program of claim 12, the computer readable medium comprising a disc.

14 (original): The computer program of claim 12, the computer readable medium comprising a client device.

15 (original): The computer program of claim 12, the computer readable medium comprising a host device.

16 (original): The computer program of claim 12, the computer readable medium comprising a propagated signal.

17 (currently amended): A state change alert apparatus, comprising a client configured to:

create a user profile indicating a preference to receive at least one alert corresponding to a change in state at ~~the~~ a remote server;
connect to a communications system including the remote server;
generate an address for the remote server from the user profile;
navigate to the address of the remote server;
retrieve data corresponding to a particular type of alert from the remote server; and
using the retrieved data in delivering an alert to ~~the~~ a client.

18 (original): The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the client includes an embedded browser.

19 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 17 18, wherein the browser is a HTTP engine.

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20 (original): The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the client is configured to display a graphical user interface to create the user profile.
